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Sabah women out to settle the score

MATCH PREVIEW

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KOTA KINABALU: Revenge will be in the mind of the Sabah women's football team when they take on MISC-MIFA in the final of the 29th Tun Sharifah Rodziah Cup Football Tournament 2016, which kicks off at 4:45pm, at the Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) in Sintok, Kedah

today.

Head coach Smith M Ampuling when contacted yesterday did not hide his intention of wanting to avenge their final defeat to MISC-MIFA in last year's final.

"We will go into the battlefield wanting to win, which would eventually help us avenge our last year's defeat," said Smith, who was then also the head coach of

the state team.

"We know it is not going to be easy because they are a good side, but this is not an impossible task either.

"The players are ready, and they are determined to do a good job for the team tomorrow (today)," said Smith.

Sabah will go into the tie with a perfect record after registering five wins and scoring 27 goals and conceding a mere one goal in the group stage before trouncing hosts Kedah 5-0 in the se-

mi-finals.

As for defending champions MISC-MIFA, they were also unbeaten in the group stage, winning four of their matches and settling

for one draw, which was against Kedah.

They clinched their final ticket after defeating Sarawak 3-0 in the semis, who Sabah beat 4-0 in the Group A challenge.

Today, Smith is expected to stick to his winning side that thrashed Kedah where Asma

Junaidi will be his first-choice custodian, while Marcella Angela Parais, Nur Athirah Farhanah Zairi, Alesca Ungau and Yastrika Laura Tumas will be the driving force at the backline.

In the midfield he will have Shereilyn Elly Pius, Keroline Raymond, Masturah Majid, Jaciah Jamulis and Usliza Usman.

Nurul Azurin Mazlan will be the team's lone striker.